

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 169531

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /009 R

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AF/S:RTHAVERKAMP

S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE

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O 082302Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE

FOL RPT PRETORIA 2994 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON 6 JUL
QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2994

LONDON FOR SCHAUFLE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF, PINT, PFOR

SUBJ: BLACK LEADERS WISH TO MEET WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER

REFS: DURBAM 295, STATE 165670

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TELEGRAM FROM COLORED LEADER
SONNY LEON ADDRESSED TO AMBASSADOR, AMERICAN EMBASSY,
PRETORIA, RECEIVED JULY 6. "REQUEST INTERVIEW ON BEHALF
BLACK LEADERS WITH SECRETARY OF STATE DOCTOR KISSINGER TO
OBTAIN BLACK VIEWS."

2. POLCOUNS TELEPHONED LEON TO VERIFY ACTUAL SOURCE OF
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PAGE 02 STATE 169531

CABLE, GIVEN OUR SUSPICION THAT IT MIGHT HAVE ORIGINATED

WITH DURBAN POST (DURBAN 295). LEON CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD SENT THE TELEGRAM. HE SAID THAT DURING LAST FEW WEEKS HE HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN PLANNING FOR A NATION-WIDE MEETING OF BLACK LEADERS TO TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER. HE HAD FOUND A GREAT DEAL OF CONCERN AMONG THESE LEADERS AT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE SECRETARY MIGHT ACCEPT AND ACT ON INFORMATION PROVIDED HIM BY PRIME MINISTER VORSTER, WHILE IN FACT HE OUGHT EQUALLY TO BE INFORMED OF THE OPINIONS OF BLACK LEADERS IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE HAD THEREFORE TAKEN THIS METHOD OF EXPRESSING AN INTEREST IN SUCH A MEETING, EITHER WITH THE SECRETARY OF WITH AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE, WHO WAS UNDERSTOOD TO BE PLANNING A VISIT IN THE AREA.

3. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION, LEON SAID THAT THE REQUEST HAD BEEN SENT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL OF CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI, INDIAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN J.N. REDDY, AND OTHER LEADERS OF THE LABOR PARTY SUCH AS CURRY AND MIDDLETON. LEON SAID HE HAD ALSO DISCUSSED THE IDEA WITH LEBOWA CHIEF MINISTER CEDRIC PHATUDI, WHO THOUGHT SUCH A MEETING NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SECY KISSINGER WITH A BALANCED VIEW.

4. LEON WAS INFORMED THAT SECY KISSINGER HAD NO PLANS TO VISIT SOUTH AFRICA, NOR WAS SOUTH AFRICA ON THE ITINERARY OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S RECENTLY ANNOUNCED TRIP, BUT THAT MR. LEON'S INTEREST IN SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE REPORTED TO WASHINGTON. LEON SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO TRAVEL TO ANY APPROPRIATE LOCATION, SHOULD SUCH A MEETING BE POSSIBLE. BOWDLER

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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To: LUSAKA GABORONE
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